

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

November 20th, 2016

“...thanks be to GOD,
which giveth us the
victory through our
LORD JESUS CHRIST.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
No Midweek Service This Week

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Please Note

We will not be having a Wednesday service this week

This evening's featured podcast speaker will be PASTOR CODY GROOVER

1 CORINTHIANS 1:30 — BUT OF GOD

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

***Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

We extend our sympathy to **Winna Groover** and family on the recent death of her husband **Cody**. **Cody** was my pastor, our missionary, our friend, *our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ (COLOSSIANS 1:7)* We received a letter from Cody recently thanking us for our support.
Copies are available on the front entrance table.

STEDFAST, UNMOVEABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING

“THEREFORE, MY BELOVED BRETHREN, BE YE STEDFAST, UNMOVEABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD, FORASMUCH AS YE KNOW THAT YOUR LABOUR IS NOT IN VAIN IN THE LORD” (1 CORINTHIANS 15:58)

Because believers have been given the *complete victory* through our LORD JESUS CHRIST (1 CORINTHIANS 15:57), we have such a *sure* and *certain* hope of forgiveness and pardon from all sins (1 JOHN 1:7), full redemption in CHRIST (GALATIANS 3:13), total reconciliation in CHRIST (2 CORINTHIANS 5:18), everlasting righteousness in CHRIST (ROMANS 4:6), washing of regeneration in CHRIST (TITUS 3:5), and *sure* and *certain* hope of a glorious resurrection in CHRIST (JOHN 11:25; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-56) therefore, be steadfast, unmoving and always abounding in the work of the LORD.

“Be stedfast;” settled in CHRIST, rooted and grounded in CHRIST, stand fast (COLOSSIANS 2:7). Take a stand for the cause of GOD and truth of the gospel and don't compromise (GALATIANS 5:1).

“Be unmoveable;” wherever the gospel is being denied or challenged be firm, strong, confident in the faith, and in view of the truth. Let nothing shake your faith or move you away from the gospel. Contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints; (JUDE 1:3).

“Always abounding in the work of the Lord.” Always engaged in doing the will of GOD; in promoting His glory, preaching His gospel and advancing His kingdom. Which means, not only to be engaged in this, but to be engaged diligently, laboriously and excelling in this. You must work and labor in the Lord, under His direction, and by His influence; for without Him ye can do nothing (JOHN 15:5). Not to be saved, but rather because we have been saved by His power and sovereign grace (EPHESIANS 2:8-10; 2 TIMOTHY 1:9).

“Knowing that our labor in the Lord is not in vain.” GOD will bless the work He has given to us. He will bless His word to the hearts of His people (ISAIAH 55:11). *“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place”* (2 CORINTHIANS 2:14).

PASTOR **TOM HARDING**

“I don’t want to be found in my best prayer. I don’t want to be found in my best message, or my best preaching. I don’t want to be found in anything I do. I want to be found in the obedience and righteousness which the LORD JESUS CHRIST established here on the earth. That is the righteousness that CHRIST is made unto us, HE is the LORD our righteousness — JEHOVAH TSIDKENU.”

PASTOR **CODY GROOVER**

ONE FAMILY

“...I BOW MY KNEES UNTO THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, OF WHOM THE WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH IS NAMED...” (EPHESIANS 3:14-15)

The scriptures describe all GOD’s people as one family (EPHESIANS 3:15). Why is it important for us to realize that GOD’s church is one family? Why does GOD the HOLY SPIRIT refer to all who are in CHRIST as the family of GOD?

All true believers are called a ***‘family’*** because we all have one Heavenly Father. We are all children of GOD by faith in CHRIST JESUS. We are all born of one SPIRIT. We are all sons and daughters of the LORD ALMIGHTY. We have all received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, ***‘Abba Father’*** (GALATIANS 3:26; JOHN 3:8; 2 CORINTHIANS 6:18;

ROMANS 8:15). We no longer look upon the holy LORD GOD with a cringing dread and fear. We no longer think of him as One always ready to punish us. Rather, we lift our eyes heavenward and look up to our GOD with tender confidence, as our reconciled and loving Father, as One who has forgiven all our sins, put away all our iniquities, and received us graciously for CHRIST's sake. We see him now as One who is full of compassion and pity. We came to him like the prodigal and he ran, fell on our necks, and kissed us. Those words, **'Our Father which art in heaven'**, are no longer merely the words of a prayer we learned as children in Sunday School. They are the sweetest words imaginable to our hearts.

All true believers are called the **'family'** of GOD because we all rejoice in, have confidence in, trust in, and are named after one great and glorious name (EPHESIANS 3:14,15). That name is the name of our great Head and Elder Brother, JESUS CHRIST the LORD. Just as a common family name is the uniting link to all the members of an earthly clan, so the name of CHRIST unites all believers together in one vast family in heaven and earth. As living members of CHRIST, we all, with one heart and mind, rejoice in one SAVIOUR. Every heart in this family is built upon CHRIST as the only object of hope. Every tongue in this family will tell you that **'CHRIST IS ALL'**.

GOD's people are all called the **'family'** of GOD, because as the sons and daughters of GOD and brothers and sisters of CHRIST, all true believers are heirs of GOD and joint heirs with CHRIST (ROMANS 8:14-19; JOHN 17:1-5, 22). And we are called the **'family'** of GOD because there is such a strong family resemblance among all who are born of GOD (PHILIPPIANS 3:3,9).

PASTOR **DON FORTNER**

FREEDOM TO SERVE GOD

"...LIBERTY TO ENTER INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST..." (HEBREWS 10:19-23)

Salvation by the grace of GOD to sinners through the sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST is the *only* message of the Bible. GOD has not changed, GOD is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The believer in CHRIST is free to enter heaven itself before the throne of GOD through JESUS CHRIST. *"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)"* HEBREWS 10:19-23

PASTOR **CODY GROOVER**